

Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Miss. Association passes 200-year mark

By William H. Perkins Jr.
Editor

Members of Mississippi Baptists' oldest association gathered last week in Mars Hill and Woodville for a special two-day, 200th anniversary commemoration of the Kingdom work that has been accomplished since Baptists first came to what was then known as the Natchez Territory.

Established in 1806, Mississippi Association is now headquartered in Liberty and has 29 member churches in Wilkinson and Amite Counties in the southwest corner of the state. The oldest Baptist churches in the Mississippi Baptist Convention are located in Mississippi Association, where several South Carolina Baptist families first stepped off their flatboats in 1780 and established settlements.

Mississippi Association records indicate that by 1818, the association had 40 member churches and stretched from New Orleans to the south, Claiborne and Copiah Counties to the north, beyond the Pearl River to the east, and into Louisiana Opelousas country to the west.

Members of the present-day churches that comprise Mississippi Association joined together for their annual meeting at Mars Hill Church near Mars Hill on the evening of October 19 and at Woodville Church in Woodville on the morning of October 20.

Brett Campbell, pastor of Mars Hill Church, served as moderator. "My major prayer that I have shared with my own congregation many times is that (this meeting) will serve as merely a stepping



SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY — Members of the churches that comprise Mississippi Association listen to Missions Director Alton Foster during the 200th anniversary annual meeting of the association at Mars Hill Church near Mars Hill on the evening of October 19. The anniversary commemoration continued on the morning of October 20 at Woodville Church, Woodville. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

stone in our continued, increasing service to the Lord Jesus.

"The meeting was a joy, and tremendous amounts of preparation went into it, but it only lasted a couple of hours and is now a memory. The pioneering

attitudes we should take with us away from these meetings should propel us to greater service in the Kingdom.

"I am proud of and grateful to each and every person who had a part in this momentous event in the life of our association."

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MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

Analysis: Cooperative Program today, tomorrow, and always

By Jerry Mixon, Director
MBCB Stewardship Dept.

Pizza has a history. At the height of the Persian Empire, soldiers of Darius the Great baked bread on their shields and covered them with cheese and dates. This was the birth of pizza.

Cooperative Program has a history. In 1919, our Home Mission Board and Foreign Mission Board spent and borrowed money against expected receipts to meet mission needs. Out of this debt crisis grew the Seventy-five Million Campaign (1919-24). Churches were asked to make a five-year mission pledge. Pledges amounted to \$92,630,923! Baptists gave \$58,591,713.

Never before had Baptists given so much to missions. The Home Mission Board received \$6,622,725 compared to \$8,188,730 received in its preceding 74 years. The Foreign Mission Board received \$11,615,327 compared to \$12,500,000 in previous years. Baptists gave 80% and 90% as much in five years as the previous 74 years.

This cooperative spirit did not originate with Baptists, but they had discovered it. They realized that in giving together they could do more than they could separately. The national convention adopted a unified budget of \$5,000,000 in 1921 called the Future Program. The Cooperative Program name was established at the 1925 Southern Baptist Convention.

A pizza consists of many ingredients. The Cooperative Program has many ingredients. Missions are done both at home and internationally. It appears easier to raise money for international missions than state missions. However, both are CP missions.

Mississippi sends 35% of its CP budget to global missions. Forty other states also send portions of their budget. Dollars remaining in Mississippi for investments in church planting, camps, evangelism, Baptist Student Unions, Sunday School, family ministry, etc., are mission dollars, too.

A pizza that is sliced into many pieces is still a pizza. The Cooperative Program is still the Cooperative Program when it supports 10,000 missionaries at home and internationally or is invested in work within a state.

Does pizza have a future? Yes. Every day we hear of some new flat, round, thin, crispy, or stuffed pizza that has hit the market. What pizza will look like in ten years, no one can predict.

What will the Cooperative Program look like in ten years? In 1925 churches averaged giving 10.86% of their undesignated budget to the cooperative effort. Today the national average of church giving is about 6.5%. Where does that leave missions in the future?

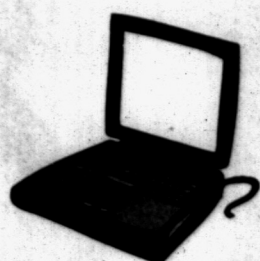
Should churches return to sending their own missionaries? Will boards again return to sending out their own fund raisers? Cecil and Susan Ray in their book,

Cooperation: The Baptist Way to a Lost World, said it best: "It took the pain of a crisis and the joy of a discovery to transform Baptists' ways. Cooperation came as a gift, a revelation, from God. And the Cooperative Program was a giant step forward toward the realization of that constant dream of 'one sacred effort' in proclaiming the gospel to all the world."

With a decreasing percentage of church budget undesignated gifts to the Cooperative Program we may ask the question, "Does CP have a future?" The answer for Mississippi is, yes! One year beyond Hurricane Katrina, the worst natural disaster to strike America in our history, we are ahead of budget. If this trend continues, we will reach the challenge portion of our budget, with additional money for education and disaster relief. CP giving for our churches is 9.5% of their undesignated budget, and that is three percent above the national average.

I believe you deserve a party! Visit with me in the Cooperative Program booth at the Mississippi Baptist Convention, October 31 - November 1 at First Church, Jackson, and pick up a free slice of pizza and a DVD comparing the Cooperative Program and pizza.

You may choose to have a pizza party in your church to celebrate CP and show the DVD. However you choose to show the DVD to your church family, please thank God for the faithfulness of churches in giving through your Cooperative Program.



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A powerful force for Kingdom work

Mississippi Baptists will come together for the 171st annual session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention on October 31-November 1, at First Church, Jackson. Messengers from more than 2,100 churches that are cooperating members of the Mississippi Baptist Convention will have the responsibility to set the convention's course for 2007.

That's really what happens. Unlike other denominations and faiths, Southern Baptists in general and Mississippi Baptists specifically have no ecclesiastical hierarchy of elders, bishops, or a pope that hands down pronouncements and edicts which church members are expected to follow.

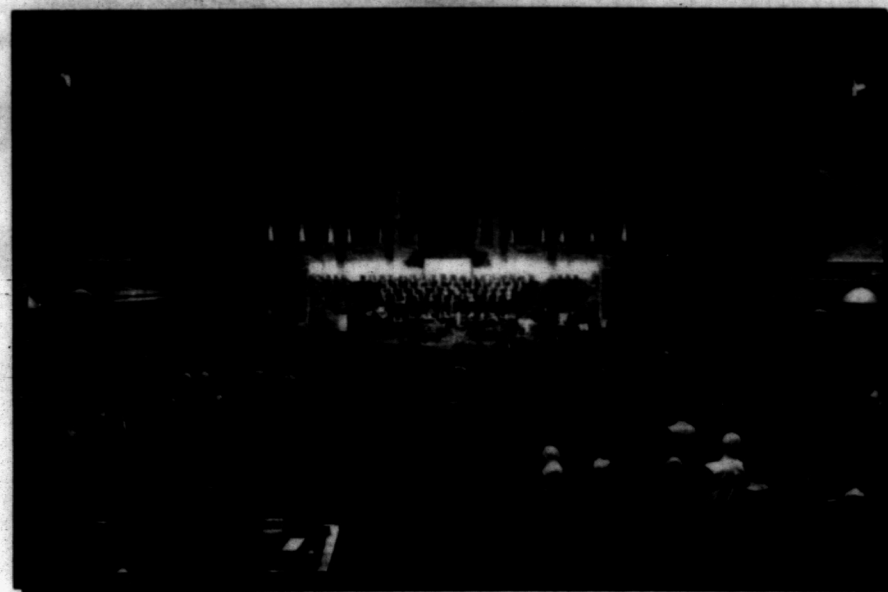
The programs and accomplishments of the Mississippi Baptist Convention are set in motion each year by the churches that choose to voluntarily affiliate with the convention and financially support those programs through the Mississippi Cooperative Program. That's right — every

church that belongs to and financially supports the work of the state convention does so of its own free will as led of the Lord.

When a church does choose to become involved, they select messengers from among the church membership to attend the annual session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and vote on the important issues that come before the body. Mississippi Baptist polity (the way we govern ourselves) closely resembles a republican form of government, in which representatives are chosen and dispatched to vote on matters that affect their constituencies.

Thus, the churches themselves are responsible for managing the convention through the annual session. When the full convention is not in session, the work is overseen by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, which is composed of 100 members and chosen by the various Baptist associations organized — once again, by the churches themselves — into county or multi-county groups.

That sounds complicated, but the point is that at the heart of this magnificent, God-honoring institution we call the Mississippi Baptist Convention is the local church. For a number of reasons, the convention



2005 Mississippi Baptist Convention

would not exist except for the committed involvement of the local churches that make up the convention.

The secondary point is that sending messengers, and being messengers ourselves, is crucial to the health of the convention. Without the churches and their messengers, the convention would likely cease to exist. Every Mississippi Baptist church — and every Mississippi Baptist — has a huge stake in the future of Baptist work in Mississippi.

Like our country's Founding Fathers, our Mississippi Baptist "Founding Fathers" created a governance structure that has served us well over the years. All are represented, and all are accountable.

Just think about what God has wrought using the faithfulness of Mississippi Baptists down through the years, and you'll understand how important are these annual sessions of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. To Him be the glory!

Lottie Moon Offering resources available November 1

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions has helped support missionaries since 1888 in taking the Gospel around the world. The 2006 goal is \$150 million, with 100% of Southern Baptists' gifts undergirding more than 5,100 missionaries working in almost every nation.

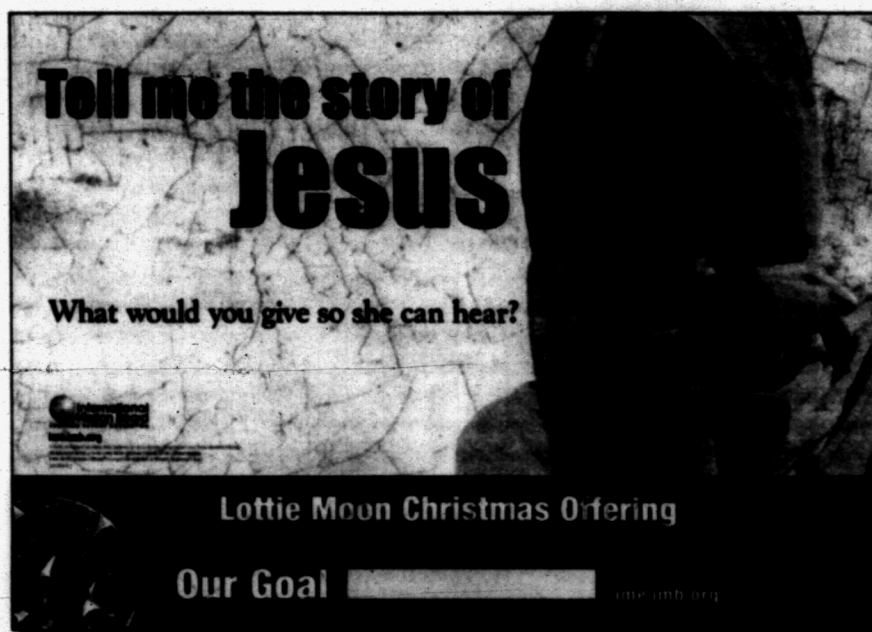
West Africa — home to 287 million people and 355 people groups with virtually no access to the Gospel — is the International Mission Board (IMB) focus for the 2006 Lottie Moon offering.

Heading into the Christmas season, IMB is offering an array of resources free of charge to help churches gain a vision for reaching the people of West Africa — and people all over the world — by supporting the 2006 Lottie Moon offering.

Two tools strategically designed to help church leaders spread the Lottie Moon message are the Pastor's Guide and the Missions Leader's Guide, available in English and Spanish and featuring an interactive CD-ROM and DVD of resources and ideas for promoting the offering.

This year the CD-ROM includes a new multimedia presentation that integrates rhythm with images of the people of West Africa. The disc also includes videos, a photo gallery, clip art, PowerPoint templates, and more. The DVD, meanwhile, includes offering promos, videos, sermon illustrations and testimonies, as well as a music video. Many of the resources are in seasonal and non-seasonal (undated) formats.

This year, the Mission Leader's Guide comes with a new section focusing on youth and children's resources, and the Pastor's



Guide includes three sermon outlines with messages on giving to world missions.

Also available this year is the 2006 That All Peoples May Know Him Christmas ornament, a limited edition collector's item featuring faces from the peoples of West Africa as a missions reminder during the busy Christmas season.

Both the summer and fall editions of The Commission magazine offer a number of stories and photos focusing specifically on West Africa people groups and missionaries featured in the Week of Prayer focus to help churches connect with Southern Baptists serving overseas.

These and other resources can be ordered free of charge from resources.imb.org.

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering poster is available through Woman's Missionary Union (WMU), with a new perforated banner so that the dated informa-

tion can be removed once the Christmas season has ended, leaving churches with a constant reminder of the importance of giving to missions. The removable strip also accommodates churches that collect their Lottie Moon offering year-round or at times other than Christmas.

As an exclusive feature at ime.imb.org, Southern Baptists can download alternate posters with other photographs and sizes (including placemat size) highlighting different people in West Africa.

The Week of Prayer brochure, also available through WMU and available in six different languages, highlights eight missionary couples serving in West Africa and shows how churches can pray specifically for those missionaries.

The Lottie Moon poster and Week of Prayer brochure are distributed by WMU state offices. Churches should receive their supplies by Nov. 1.

Churches that register their Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal at ime.imb.org/goal will receive a free chronological Bible storying cloth, a tool used as a major outreach method in West Africa and around the world.

Many congregations across the United States have invited missions speakers to talk in their services, including both active missionaries and others with missions experience, to engage their members in achieving their missions goal. Although it is too late for this Christmas season, a missions speaker for next year can be requested by calling the IMB's church services team at (800) 999-3113.

Leaders urge on conservative voters

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP and local reports) — Christian conservatives must ignore a nationwide effort to suppress their vote and instead must turn out in November to vote for candidates who will support biblical values, pro-family leaders said at an enthusiastic rally in Nashville on Oct. 16.

The Stand for the Family rally was sponsored by Focus on the Family Action and held before a near-capacity crowd of approximately 2,700 at Two Rivers Church that gave the speakers dozens of standing ovations. Previous rallies have taken place in Pittsburgh and Minneapolis.

The rally was held just three weeks before voters in Tennessee and seven other states will go the polls to vote on constitutional marriage amendments. Nationwide, voters will decide which political party controls the House of Representatives and Senate.

"This election will be decided by which side gets their base motivated and gets their base out to vote," Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission in Nashville, told the crowd. "That is why the liberal media has abandoned any semblance of objectivity... to launch an all-out attack on values voters and on the candidates of values voters to seek to suppress our vote."

Focus on the Family founder James Dobson said there is a concerted effort by some to use the Mark Foley scandal to keep Christian conservatives home on Nov. 7, Election Day, but Dobson said such issues as the sanctity of human life and the direction of the Supreme Court are too important for conservatives not to vote.

"What Mark Foley did was unconscionable. It was terrible," Dobson said. "...Thankfully he's gone. But tell me — now that he's gone, why is it still with us? Why are they still talking about it? Why are they trying to blame somebody for it? It is because they are using that to suppress the values voters."

Dobson said he was told that additional news about "outed gay" Republicans may come out in coming weeks. "They're dribbling this bad news out so that eventually the values voters will get to the place that they say, 'A pox on both your houses. I'm staying home.' Folks, we cannot afford to do that," Dobson said.

Jerry Sutton, pastor of Two Rivers Church, said the stakes in the upcoming election are high.

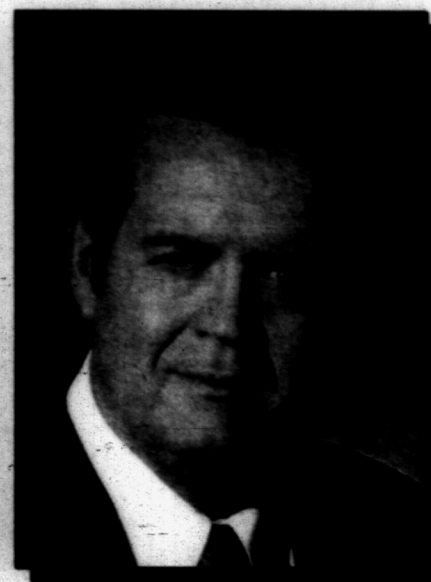
"We're in a great civil war again today. It's not a war of bullets and guns but a war of ideas and arguments," Sutton said. "And it's every bit as



Dobson



Hutcherson



Land

important as the Civil War that our nation fought almost 150 years ago. For us, it's a war against secularists... who would like to take us back to the immorality of the days of ancient Rome.

"Our goal is to motivate every single believer — everyone who names the name of Jesus — to be involved in the political process... We will not be silent."

Dobson pointed to a headline in The New York Times that read, "Gay Marriage Losing Punch as Ballot Issue." The story asserted that "supporters of same-sex marriage this year are likely to be as mobilized as the opponents." A recent headline on a Reuters story asserted, "Values voters fade as factor in U.S. campaign."

"There are these statements that values voters don't care this year and they're going to stay home," Dobson said. "...For two years [liberals have] been livid over what happened in 2004."

"I'm going to cast my vote anyway. Are you?" he said to a shout of "Yes!" from the crowd.

Dobson mentioned five issues that should motivate Christian conservatives to vote: homosexual marriage, control of the Supreme Court, the sanctity of human life, the legal battle over religious liberty, and the war against Islamic militants.

"I am told by people who know far more about it than I do that there are probably two... Supreme Court justices who are hanging on until there is a more liberal Senate so that their seat will not be taken by somebody who is conservative," Dobson said. "It's a 5-4 [pro-choice] court right now. One more new justice — if they are conservative — will put Roe v. Wade in jeopardy."

Roe v. Wade is the 1973 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court that legalized abortion throughout the country during all nine months of pregnancy.

Dobson said he has never

seen the hatred for conservatives that exists in America today. He said he is "being bludgeoned" by some in the media. "Why now?" he asked. "...It is that they identify me as one of the people that helped turn out the values voters last time and they're determined it isn't ever going to happen again."

Land said Christians have a biblical responsibility to vote.

"God ordained the government, and in a country like ours where we have the privilege of determining that we're going to have a government of the people, by the people and for the people, it is a flat-out sin not to vote," Land said. "You need to be registered to vote. You need to be an informed voter, and when you vote, you need to vote your values. ...Your loyalty doesn't belong to any party... It belongs to God Almighty."

Family Research Council President Tony Perkins asked those in attendance to pray for America 10 minutes each day leading up to the election. He also asked those in attendance to call 10 friends or family members and get them to vote.

Ken Hutcherson, a pro-family leader and the pastor of Antioch Bible Church in Redmond, Wash., said

Christians must not be identified with a political party but must vote according to their values.

"I am not a Republican. I am not a Democrat," he said. "I am a righteous man before God who stands for righteousness.... Because we hold righteousness as our goal, [then] ...we have the obligation, the responsibility, the call to make sure unrighteousness is not pushed upon a nation that was founded on God's Word and His principles."

In addition to Tennessee, the other states voting on marriage amendments Nov. 7 are Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, South Carolina, South Dakota, Virginia and Wisconsin. The amendments are aimed at preventing a repeat of what happened in Massachusetts, where the state's highest court issued a ruling legalizing "gay marriage." Massachusetts has no marriage amendment.

In 2004, Mississippi voters passed their own marriage amendment with 86% in favor of defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman. It was one of the largest margins of victory ever recorded for such amendments in the U.S.

Looking back

10 years ago

Jerry Falwell confirms that a monthly financial contribution to the new Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia (SBCV) state convention by Thomas Road Church, Lynchburg, Va., has, in essence, made him a Southern Baptist.

20 years ago

Mississippian J. Thomas Warrington, former Southern Baptist missionary to Costa Rica, is named by the Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Va., as a candidate consultant at the Board. He will advise prospective missionaries and help them through the application process.

60 years ago

New Orleans Seminary begins its 29th session with a new name (formerly called the Baptist Bible Institute), a new president — Roland Quinche Leavell — and a standing room only enrollment that forces the seminary to place many prospective students on a lengthy waiting list.



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

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YOU CAN RESPOND RIGHT NOW!

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

The principles of sowing and reaping are not just horticultural; they are theological. In other words, they are not just farm terms — they are faith terms. The Scripture says, "For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Gal. 6:7b). I remember many years ago when I was just a young guy, the grounds around our courthouse were tilled up, raked over, and they were going to plant new grass. All of the preparations were made and the grass was sown. They began to water it so that they could get a good stand. It was weeks later when a strange thing was discovered. Unbeknownst to anybody except the small group involved in doing it, a group of young guys went out at night and sowed turnip green seeds over the same prepared land. While some of the grass was coming up at the same time, people began to observe, figure out what they were looking at, and chuckle when they saw a courtyard full of turnip greens. Of course, while some people thought it was funny others did not see the humor at all. After some serious investigation and the boys who had perpetrated the crime had been discovered, they did not seem to think it was quite so funny either. I know they should not have done it, but I must confess that I never drove by the courthouse and looked over at those turnip greens without wanting to laugh out loud. Even now it puts a smile on my face when I remember those big, leafy greens growing in front of the courthouse.

Here is the biblical and the Farmer's Almanac truth: What you sow, you are going to reap. From a biblical standpoint we need to remember that whether it is good things that we sow or bad there is still going to be a crop. You sow evil or you sow good and in time the results will be seen. Think about the laws of the harvest, for they never change.

Law number one — you get more than you sow. For anyone



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

who has ever planted and raised corn, it is so easy to see and to calculate. You put one little kernel of corn in the ground and it germinates and begins to spring up and grow taller and taller and put on ears of corn, maybe three or four ears. You can take any one of those ears of corn and begin to count how many kernels they have and even if it is a scrawny crop, you will have hundreds of kernels on that one ear that came from one little kernel you planted. You will always get more than you sow. Take an evil act and plant it in your soul and what results is almost indescribable, for that one wrong decision can have hundreds of implications and impact on related issues in your life. If you invest a good work in the Kingdom of God, thanks to Him it is not isolated and alone for it can go on touching lives and making a difference in many people for generations beyond your own life.

I think of the folks who in years gone by set up endowments and trusts with the Mississippi Baptist Foundation. Maybe at the time it looked like a small amount of money, but well cared for and nurtured it grows and grows. Others may add to it and it produces revenue that literally makes a difference in some young person's life who is trying to go to school or it may make the difference in some ministry in a church that would not survive and bless without that gift. You reap more than you sow!

The second law of the harvest is that you get the same as you sow. If you sow corn, you get corn. Nobody picks tomatoes off okra plants. Cucumbers do not grow from watermelon seeds. It

is ludicrous to sow something and then be surprised when you get what you sowed. Years ago I read a probing little quip that said many people spend all week sowing their wild oats and then go to church on Sunday and pray for a crop failure. It is not likely to happen because what you sow is what grows.

I have lived long enough to watch families reap what they sow. I have known of folks who took their kids to church all of the time. They had them there for every activity and made them stay through every service. The kids grew up with a bad attitude toward church and a disdain for church leadership and the pastor. How does that happen? Well, they come to church for a little while on Sunday but the seeds that are planted all week long are seeds of criticism, distrust, and sometimes even hostility. When the crop comes in, it is not just a harvest of church attendance but it is shaped by warped attitudes. Regardless if it is pumpkins or pride, you get the same thing you sow.

Law three — you always reap later than you sow. One of the things of which urbanization has robbed people is found embedded in this law. It is a good thing to learn that on the good side of things it is healthy to wait. You plant the seed, you water, you wait, you watch the sun warm the earth, and then a small plant begins to grow and you wait. Weeks pass by and then you begin to see the blooms or the small fruit being shaped. It continues to grow, to ripen, and then you pick it. In our culture we have done everything we can to eradicate delayed gratification. I want it. I want it now. I want it like I want it. Plant good things,

trust God, and watch Him grow them. On the other side when you plant bad things you may be deceived into thinking the seeds will not grow. Days pass by and nothing happens. Weeks pass and all you see is a scrawny little ole plant, but in time evil will produce a harvest of more evil.

Through the years I have known numerous people who smoked and argued with people who tried to reason with them that it was hurting them. They laughed when people would tell them they should quit and then sadly, even tragically, they succumbed to lung cancer, or emphysema, or both, and other related illnesses that took their lives. I have had men and women tell me to warn young people not to smoke. The problem is that young people do not listen any more than they listen to encouragement, instruction, and advice. It takes a while for some seeds to germinate, grow, and produce a crop, but you can write down the law of the harvest. The crop will come.

Young parents probably do not have enough time to spend journaling and jotting down what happens during the day — what kind of interaction took place with the children, things that were said that would have been better left unsaid, and the good things that happened reinforced with love and hope. You may wonder why you would even want to do that. If you were to keep a journal of the interactions of relationships in your home with your kids, after a short period of time you would be able to see what your child is going to look like when he or she is grown. What you read good, bad, or otherwise in your journal you will more than likely see fleshed out in time in a little boy, or a young woman. It will grow and be shaped by your actions, attitudes, responses, prejudices, and will. You reap much later than you sow, but you always reap what you sow.

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MS POSITIONS

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, HICKORY FLAT, MISS., is looking for a bi-vocational minister of music. Please send resume to First Baptist Church, attn: minister of music search committee, P.O. Box 98, Hickory Flat, MS 38633.

HARRISBURG BAPTIST CHURCH, TUPELO, MISS., seeks a full-time Director of childhood education. Prefer seminary-trained with large church Sunday School and children's worship experience. Send resumes to Gary Waters, 506 Lake Park Drive, Tupelo, MS 38801.

EAST PHILADELPHIA BAPTIST CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA, MISS., is seeking a student/youth minister. Seminary degree preferred. If interested, please send resume to mcheatham@choctaw.org or call Mark Cheatham at (601) 650-9271.

HICKORY RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH, FLORENCE, MISS., is seeking a bi-vocational music minister. Please send

resumes to attn: search committee, 203 Ridge Park Cove North, Raymond, MS 39154 or email dertle@jam.rr.com.

PARKWAY BAPTIST, HERNANDO, MISS., seeking a full-time Minister of Education and part-time Minister of Music. We need spiritually-mature and motivated team members. Parkway is growing with unlimited potential. If the Lord leads you, contact the Personnel Committee: 50 N. Parkway, Hernando, MS 38632. Or fax (662) 429-6076, email bailley_pbc@yahoo.com.

MURPHY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH, LOUISVILLE, MISS., is seeking a part-time youth director. Please send resume and references to Murphy Creek Baptist Church, Attn: Youth Director Search Committee, 5420 Bond Rd., Louisville, MS 39339.

FULL-TIME POSITION OF MINISTER OF MUSIC AND YOUTH. Must have experience with contemporary-style praise and worship music. Please send resume to 426 Pineview Lane, Brandon, MS 39042. Or call (601) 824-9404.

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

October 26, 2006

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

2007 Deacon Ministry Emphasis

is a plan with specific actions that highlight deacon ministries and involve deacon training and service.

The Purpose Of Deacon Emphasis Is To:

- Focus on their biblical role
- Build team relationships
- Secure involvement in ministries
- Develop skills for ministry

When and How

This emphasis may be conducted at any time during the year, however, January 7-13 is designated by the MBCB as the week to emphasize deacon ministry.

To participate, the deacons would choose at least two actions and perform them during a specified time.

Church deacon chairman will receive a brochure in the mail with suggested ideas for activities.

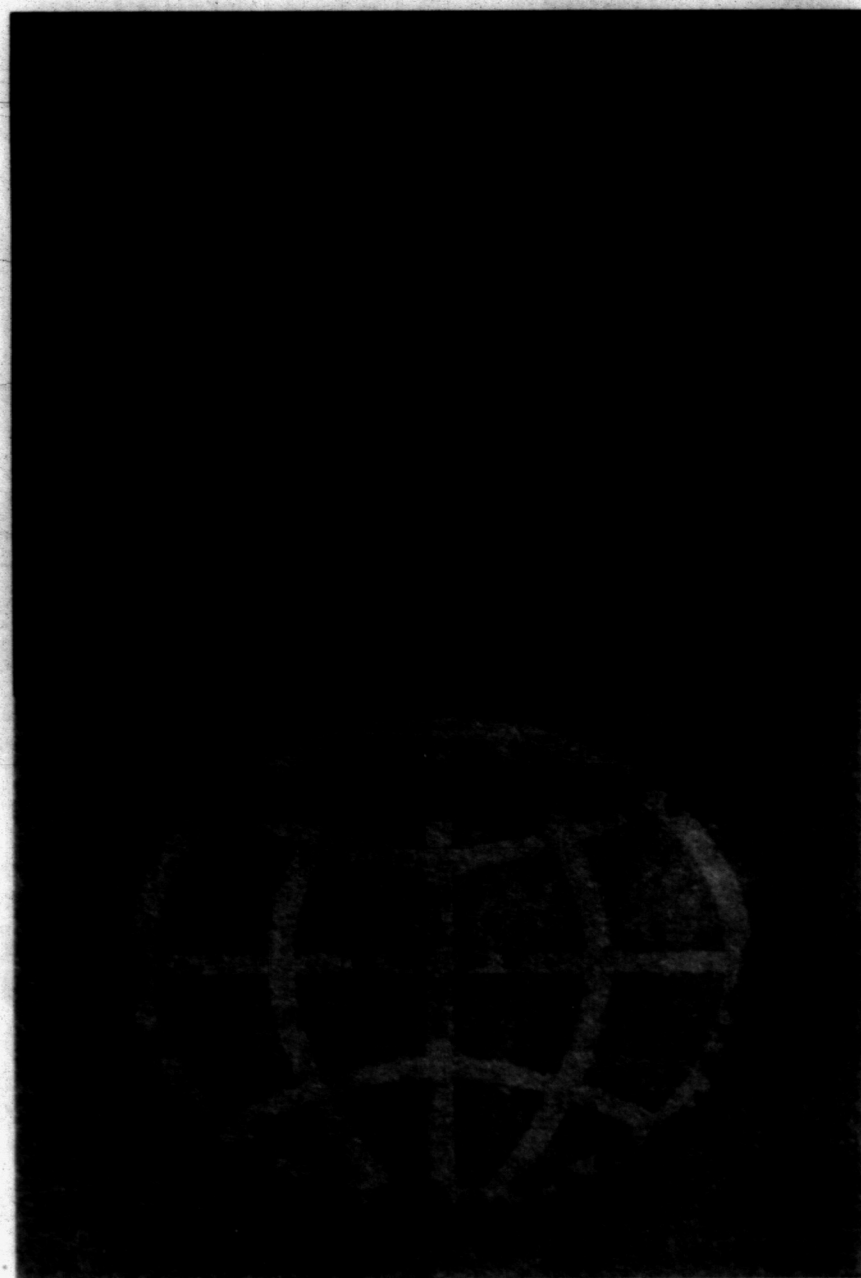
A certificate of recognition will be presented to each deacon body that participates.

For more info, contact Kay McDonnell at 1-800-748-1651, 601-292-3305
or kmcdonnell@mbcb.org

This Generation Tour "Declaring God's Glory to Every Nation"

Nov. 8

Willam Carey, Hattiesburg



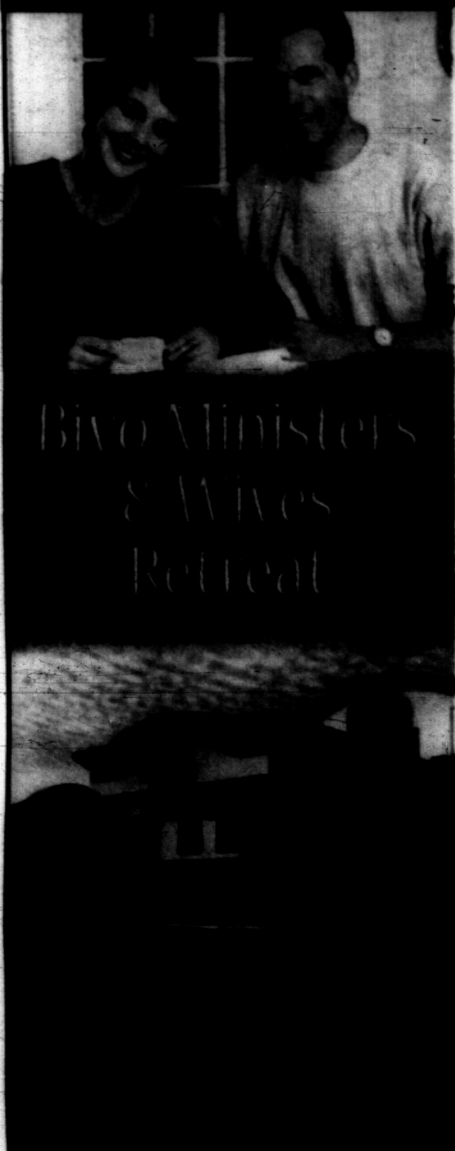
Information and ticket purchase online:
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Mississippi Baptist Student Union



One Voice in Worship

FBC, Columbia
November 12
6 p.m.



BIVOCATIONAL MINISTERS & WIVES RETREAT

December 1, 6 p.m. - December 2, noon

Conference location:

AUBURN BAPTIST CHURCH
1138 Rd. 931
Tupelo, MS 38804 662-842-5638

Accomdatations location:

WINGATE INN
186 Stone Creek Rd., Tupelo, MS 38804
Phone: 662-680-8887; www.tupelowingateinn.com

Leaders



Ray Elder
Bivocational Ministries Director
Tennessee Baptist Convention



Johnny Rakestraw
Pastor
First Baptist Church of Hickory Flat
Certified public accountant

For more information, contact:
Dr. Marc Howard
Phone: 662-566-1700
E-mail: lcba@lwol.com

SCHEDULE

RESERVATION AND REGISTRATION

- A limited number of scholarships are available.
- There is a \$20 preregistration fee that will be refunded to those who attend.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Contact Marc Howard, associational missions director,
Lee Baptist Association, at 662-566-1700
for information on scholarships and
accommodations at Wingate Inn.

Meals provided by MBCB Pastor/Leadership Development Department

Host: Lee County Baptist Association

POWER 1:08

YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE



December 28-29

SCHEDULE:

Registration begins at 1 p.m.
First Session starts at 2 p.m.
Concludes Friday at 4 p.m.

For more info, contact Harvey Ellis or Beverly Bridges at 1-800-748-1651 or 601-968-3800



FESTIVAL

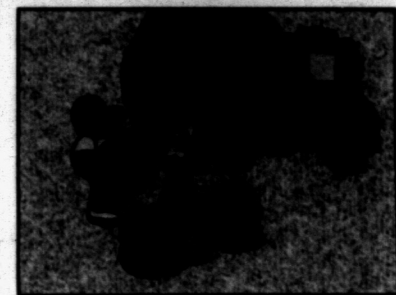
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Broadmoor Baptist Church
Madison



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By Faith

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with
Janie Walters
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or E-mail: kmcdonnell@mbcb.org

For a complimentary
copy of the MCB
Discipleship and Family
Ministry Department

Send the names
and addresses of the
ministries you plan to attend.
Send pre-registration to:
MCB, Discipleship & Family Ministry
PO Box 530
Jackson MS 39205

QUESTIONS?
Call 1-800-748-1651 or
601-292-3284 or E-mail: dministry@mbcb.org



**Seeing
with
new eyes**

**The Day of Prayer observance
links women of the world,**
providing spiritual lifelines that
strengthen and give hope. Who can
measure the courage gained by these
women, realizing that their sisters in
other countries are praying for them?
Many Baptist sisters in Eastern Europe

say that it is prayer that brought free-
dom and peace to many of their
countries as experienced in 1990. The
need continues!

In some parts of the globe
women are known to walk several
miles, some over and down moun-
tains, to reach appointed places of

Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer November 6

For more info and materials:
<http://www.bwanet.org/Women/DOPcoverp.htm>
or Kathy Burns: kburns@mbcb.org

prayer. In parts of Asia and Africa it is
reported that women swim small
rivers and streams to participate in the
Day of Prayer. Is it any wonder the
movement has grown? With such
courage and devotion Baptist women
will continue to be the strength of
their churches.

Pray this day for...

October 27 - November 16, 2006

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 601-292-3304 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-7729 (PRAY)

*"God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.
If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it."
"The Rose," forwarded E-mail from Samuel Forrest*

Please pray for the health and safety of missionaries Rob and Phyllis Hefner as they praywalk each Friday and Saturday in Fortaleza, Brazil. Pray for them as they share the Gospel in public areas and that God will guide them to "map" out areas of the city where people can best be reached.

Missionary Charlotte Cearley leads a women's Bible study near Gaborone, Botswana. Three have received Christ and several others are interested, but hesitating. Pray that God's Word will be clear as they study together, and that the new believers will encourage others to trust in Christ only for salvation.

"In August we requested prayer for four women in A's family in Santo Domingo," writes the Esperanza Team South. "Three of these women have now received Jesus into their hearts as Savior and Lord. Rejoice with the angels in heaven for what God has done."

For: (1) Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Committee meetings; (2) Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (100 member Board meeting); (3) Lay Mission Conference & Banquet (MM); (4) Ministers' Wives Conference, FBC, Jackson (P/LD).

For: (1) Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer (WMU Emphasis); (2) Youth Minister's Retreat; Lake Tiak-O'Khata, Louisville (Youth Ministry); (3) Please pray for President Moritz Leuenberger of Switzerland (central Europe).

In May, a Muslim man and his wife came to Christ in a city in the Deccan of India and were being discipled by a national. Sadly, the wife died in July. Their families may not know of their faith in Christ. The husband needs the encouragement of Christians. Pray that this will draw him closer to Christ.

For: (1) Mississippi Baptist Chaplain's Association Annual Fall Banquet (MM); (2) AMD & Seminary Extension Directors' Breakfast (P/LD); (3) Mississippi Baptist Convention, 31st-Nov. 1, FBC, Jackson.

Pray for leaders of new churches in Costa Rica who have worked very closely with IMB personnel (now on stateside assignment). Pray that they have the wisdom and faith to sense and follow the Lord's leading in their ministry to their young congregations without depending on the missionaries.

It takes one to two hours traveling by boat to reach the island of Baga Marara in Guinea. There is no electricity, running water, or communication to the mainland. Who will come and share the peace and joy that Jesus Christ offers? Pray that God will call a church or witness to the Marara very soon.

For: (1) Mississippi Baptist Convention Board meeting, immediately following the last session of the convention; (2) Bivocational Ministers & Ministers' Wives Breakfast (P/LD); (3) Campers-On Missions, TBA; 5 p.m., 1st-noon, 4th (MM).

For: (1) Baptist Building Staff AT HOME DAYS, 8th-10th; (2) For more than a hundred years other people and traditional institutions have oppressed the M'G' people of Colombia. Pray that God will free them from their "slavery" to other people, institutions and their own sins.

(1) Many young couples serving Christ in China are awaiting the birth of their babies. Pray that they trust fully in Him to supply all their needs at this vital time of life; (2) Pray for the rebuilding of New Orleans through Operation Noah (NAMB & LBC). Thousands of volunteers are needed.

Loren Phippen, Wichita, Kan., is director of evangelism and a Nehemiah church planter for the heart of Kansas SBA. Pray for Loren as he leads people in evangelism through door-to-door and sunset evangelism, Good Neighbor Centers, and in the jail system.

Pray especially for facilitators for simplehouse churches and outreach groups of Uruguay to take on responsibilities as two missionary families, Charles and Karen Clark and Brian and Christy Thompson, leave for stateside assignment later in 2006.

Richard O. Derby, Newport, Ore., is the Northwest Baptist Convention's Coastal Strategist and Director of Missions. His major focus is Oregon and South Washington coasts and starting churches in cities that do not have a Southern Baptist Church. Pray that new churches will be planted.

John Hill is an army battalion chaplain currently deployed in Iraq. Please lift up the soldiers and ask God for protection as they fulfill this mission, knowing that the God of Psalm 91 is with them.

Mexico includes over 6 million indigenous speakers of more than 300 languages and dialects whose origins bear no relation to Spanish. The Bible is not in their language. Stories of the Bible will be prepared in each of the indigenous languages. Please pray for the ministry of this team.

For: (1) Preschool/Children's Leadership Festival, Jackson (Preschool/Children's Team); (2) The follow-up work that is being done after a church planting conference in Lima, Peru, on September 17-29. Ask God to raise up church planters and pastors for new churches, and for at least two churches to be planted.

Tom Jackley serves with the Truckstop Ministries, Inc., at the Marianna, Fla., location. This ministry has 67 locations in 27 states. Since the mobile chapel in Marianna was set up, more than 20 people have come to Christ. Pray for Tom, for volunteer chaplains and a location closer to the truck stop.

Almost 500 attended the recent annual session of the Ghana Baptist Convention. The theme was "Mobilizing Our Resources for Evangelists and Missions." Please pray for newly elected president, Rev. S., and vice president, Rev. N., as they lead Ghana Baptists to focus on evangelism and missions.

Linda Middlebrooks who serves with the Rachel Sims Mission says: "God is moving in New Orleans in a way never experienced before, but pray for the city's violence. Two weekends in Sept. saw 12 and then 16 shootings, many related to drugs. Pray that God will be the victor in this spiritual war."

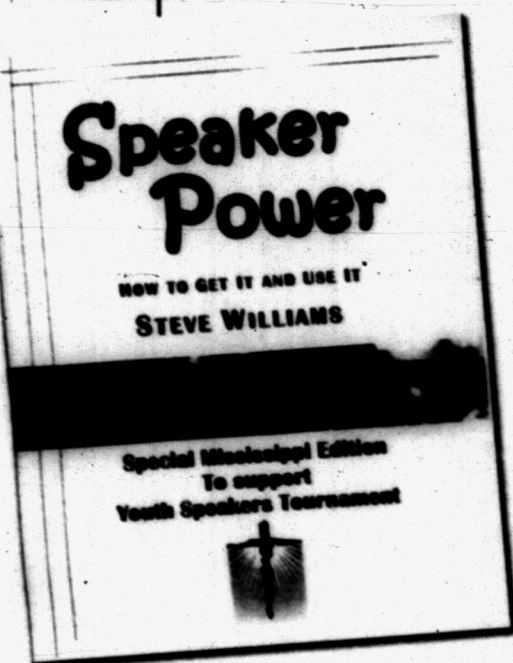
The Mississippi Edition of **SPEAKER POWER** by Steve Williams is a resource to support Youth Speakers Tournament. Discipleship and Family Ministry would like to send you a complimentary copy of this new book.

Please mail the form below to:

Discipleship and Family Ministry Department

P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

or Fax to 601-714-7432 [E-mail orders also accepted at dbrashier@mbcb.org]



Check below:

- ☐ Please send me a copy of the Mississippi Edition of **Speaker Power**.
☐ Please send my church _____ [number needed] copies of this year's Youth Speakers Tournament brochure.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Church: _____

Association: _____

Also check below:

- ☐ Send a representative to talk to me about Speakers Tournament.
☐ We want to host a Speakers Tournament Clinic for our church and association.

HOUSE TOPS

CONGRATULATIONS

TO

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&

**Friendship Baptist Church,
Ecru, Mississippi**

Rev. Buster Wilson, Pastor

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WHYLK OPZ OLHYA AV
ZLLR AOL SHD VM AOL
SVYK, HUK AV KV PA,
HUK AV ALHJO PU
PZYHLS ZAHABALZ HUK
QBKNTLUAZ.

LGYH ZLCLU:ALU

G = Z

Have fun with cryptography and
exercise your Bible knowledge. A
King James Version Bible verse has
been encoded by letter substitution.
The same letter is substituted
throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial
and error. Answer to last week's
puzzle: Joshua One: Nine.

Best Record
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GIFTS OF HONOR AND MEMORY

OCT. 9-23, 2006

HONORS

Adult IV SBC Members, Wadwell
Mrs. Opal Vickers
Miss Marie Blanton
FBC Houston
Alvin Harris
Mrs. Nelda Mann
Dr. Lancel Jayroe
Melanie, Rick & Allison White
Dr. John Temple
Mrs. Jeanne Eubanks

Mrs. Othel Turrell
BYKOTA-Liberty BC

MEMORIALS

Pat Abney
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Benson
CBE Bailey
Elise Bell
Judy Brooks
Leon Billings
Ms. Hope Hawkins
Ruby Blackwell

Bill, Suzanne, John & Alex Sumrell
Lanny Bradford
Mr. & Mrs. Shepard D. Ashley
J. W. Brister
Mr. & Mrs. Hale Singletary
Maudie Britton
Mrs. Elizabeth G. Currey
Tom Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Billy B. Rawls
Mrs. Helen Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd E. Fuqua Jr.
Mrs. Joyce Griffin
Ms. Ruth Van Landingham Whit
Mrs. Ione Browning
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis A. Buchanan
Charles Burch
Mrs. Charles R. Burch
Mrs. Sue Burton
Kolola Springs BC
Joyce Byrd
Bina Campbell
Mr. & Mrs. James C. Brents Jr.
Paul Carver
Graeber Brothers Inc.
Mrs. Gaynell Chappell
Mr. & Mrs. Ira Lee Kirkpatrick Jr.
Johnny Clark
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Downs
Mrs. Christine C. Cockerham
Galilee BC
Mr. & Mrs. B. A. Anders
Mrs. Anna K. Cockerham
Mr. & Mrs. James E. Dixon
Mr. & Mrs. L. B. Collins
Ms. Mattie L. Blaylock
Mrs. Margaret Grantham Coon
Jack Grantham & Family
Robert Grantham & Family
Lorraine Grantham Oakman
& Family
Mrs. Juanita Goss Cooper
Mrs. T. P. Boulter
Rev. Lory Cope
Dr. & Mrs. Rory Lee
Mr. Andrew Crabtree
Ms. Elzene P. Bell
Mrs. Ella Herrington Craft
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Trotter
Mr. Billy Mack McEachern
Senator Tommy Robertson
Charles Crum
Mrs. Bobbie Crum
D. R. Davis
Miss Lucy Mikell
Earnest Davis
Nina Baucum
JoAnn Green
Margy Perkins
Mary Dixon
Mike & Donna Johnson
Mrs. Clara Dwyer
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis A. Buchanan
Mr. James Franklin Downey
Mr. & Mrs. N. Lavalle Massey
Shirley Dyess
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Michael Ervin
Mr. & Mrs. David A. Reed
Mrs. M. H. Fenville
Mr. & Mrs. Reuben Netherland
Mr. Billy Fuller
Mr. & Mrs. Michael D. Allen
Larry Gohar
Mr. & Mrs. Jack McRee
Mr. Gus Ginn
Gary Sullivan
Mrs. Helen Sullivan
Vera Gula
Mr. Sherrell R. Sturdivant
Mrs. Jeanne Gunn
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Blair
Charlie Hall
Ms. Margaret Ann Finnie
Ruth Harper Acton
Ms. Nancy F. Patrick
Stephanie Holcomb
Mrs. Elizabeth G. Currey
Mrs. Rita Howell



The Girls Scouts Troop 369 of Jackson recently hosted a Fall Party for the BCV elementary aged residents. The girls had snacks and played games with the residents.

Mrs. Jean Turner
Max Hughes
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Porter
Son of Robert & Heather Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. J. V. Parker
Kyle Adams Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas M. Hale
Mr. Lamine Kilbough
Ms. Maida C. Stegall
Dr. Karmit D. Laird
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald T. Taylor
Floyd D. Lee, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip R. Hilton
Robert (Bob) Littleton
David & Sidette Briscoe
Larry Loungridge
Bill & Frances Croel
Mrs. Lorene MacMillan
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dew
O. K. Magee
Mr. & Mrs. Billy B. Rawls
Carolyn McKee
Mr. & Mrs. Joe B. Holmes
Onelle Murphy
Charles & Estelle Owens
Angie Nell
Graeber Brothers Inc.
Ford Nell
Ms. Nina J. Herbert
Rusty Sinn
Mrs. Howard (Nancy) Nell
Mr. & Mrs. W. K. Riggan
Mrs. Bernice Netherland
Mr. & Mrs. Bill E. Coleman
Mellie Palmer
Donald Boswell & Family
Maurice J. Boswell
Joseph Lannon & Family
Edna Mae Parker
The Family of Gene Odom
Patsy L. Wilkins Popper
Mr. & Mrs. J. E. Tramel Jr.
Mr. Paul Perkins

Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Hill
W. H. Pickering
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Melton & Family
Donald Porter
Concord BC
Mrs. Mary Sue Powell
Mrs. Emmie Lou Green
Grayson Purvis
Ms. Jo Ann H. Mikell
John Quon
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis A. Buchanan
Mary Lou Ren
Gene & Betty Webb
Mathew Charles Shrivast
Mrs. Hubert H. Haynes
Mrs. Jimmy (Monica) Sellers
Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Weeks
Charles F. Sinclair
Mrs. Mildred H. Stamps
Mrs. Georgia Rae Gaskin Smith
Mrs. Louise Allgood & Family
Mrs. Kitty Standler
Ms. Hilda Morse
Mrs. Thirteenth Stephens
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Dungan
Dungan Engineering P.A.
W. R. & Thirteenth Stephens
Mr. & Mrs. Herman L. Dungan Jr.
Mrs. Ora Belle Stuart
Mr. & Mrs. John C. Sanders
James Sullivan
Mrs. Anne McKee
Mrs. Etha Sullivan
Keith & Jean Sullivan
Ms. Margaret Jennings Tanner
Sisters & Brother of
Phillip & Louise Dixon
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L. C. Taylor
Kolola Springs BC
Mrs. Eleanor Tindall
The Robert Sullivan Family

Jeremy Toler
Mr. & Mrs. Jackie Wooley & Jordan
John A. Tuten
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Ms. Linda P. Ebberts
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Dr. & Mrs. Fred E. Tatum
Roland Wall
Lulie Harvey
Ms. Patricia S. McEwen
Joe Price, Jr.
Alice Price
Edwin P. Price
Lovisa Stephenson
W. W. Walley, M.D.
Mr. Foye Giles
Mr. & Mrs. Howard S. Van Eiten

Shelia Van Eiten
Shame Watts
Charles & Estelle Owens
Billie M. White
Phelia BC
Mary Roberts Whittington
Class of 1953
Mrs. Lynda Willard
Dr. Joe Lovelady's SSC,
N Oxford BC
Mrs. Frances T. Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Frank O. Crosthwait Jr.
Jack Worthington
Rusty & Linda Watts
Billy Young
Charles & Estelle Owens
Mrs. Joyce Young
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Gore III
Mr. & Mrs. Charles F. Breland
Margaret Young
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Barbee

The Baptist Children's Village has an immediate opening for individuals to minister to BCV residents in the position of Houseparent. This is a salaried position with benefits.

To request an application or for more information, please contact Brenda Ulmer at bulmer@baptistchildrensvillage.com or call 601-922-2242.

The Baptist Children's Village Annual Report 2006

By Rory Lee

Executive Director, Baptist Children's Village

The newly revised mission statement of The Baptist Children's Village is "to help children and their families fully understand and experience the healing ministry of Christ by meeting their daily needs, and inspiring them to become Christian adults who are happy, healthy, and mature." The S.A.F.E. Track program, which emphasizes excellence in four specific areas of residents' lives, continues to be the plan to keep the BCV focused on achieving our mission.

The S.A.F.E. Track program brings into focus Spiritual Growth, Academic Achievement, Family Values, and Emotional Strength. Services at local churches, daily Bible studies in the cottages, chapel services, and individual conversation about spiritual matters have led to 33 decisions for Christ during the past year and numerous other spiritual breakthroughs.

The addition of an educational coordinator who is a part of the Clinton school system and more academic tutors has enhanced the academic achievement

of BCV residents. There is also a renewed emphasis on preparation for independent living with our older residents. Preparation for independent living is an integral part of summer activities. During the year there were 5 residents who completed their senior year of high school. Four are continuing their education after completing high school.

Family values are modeled for the residents by the cottage parents. The residents are nurtured and given positive reinforcement while learning of their own responsibilities to make cottage life a positive experience. A renewed emphasis on cottage team meetings and training provide additional support for cottage parents.

Many residents need the appropriate amount of time and guidance in working through past negative experiences. BCV counselors work individually with residents to bring about positive adjustments and move toward emotional strength.

There are specific individual goals set in each of the S.A.F.E. Track areas for each resident as they are admitted to The BCV. These goals are discussed and reviewed with the resident to get their input and to

let them know what is necessary to meet the established goals. The goals themselves and progress toward attaining those goals are reviewed for each resident every six months.

Other accomplishments during the past year include the purchase of seven new 12 passenger vans with anti-rollover features, the completion of Moore Cottage in Wiggins to house up to 10 young women, and a new website to assist in fostering a positive Baptist Children's Village image.

During the past year, The Baptist Children's Village has served 298 residents in one of our five locations throughout the state. Those locations include: Deanash Campus in Wiggins, Dickerson Place Campus in Brookhaven, Farrow Manor Campus in Independence, India Nunnery Campus in Jackson (Central Headquarters) and Reedy Acres Campus in Water Valley.

Through the Cooperative Program of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, The BCV receives 11% of its operating budget. An additional 40% of the budget comes from gifts from churches over and above the CP gifts. We are grateful for the continued support of this ministry.

FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Take Hold of Endurance

2 Timothy 3:1, 10-17; 4:5-8

By Arthur Story

Two of my favorite pastimes are movies and books. I especially enjoy movies that are based on books that I've read. I'm always curious to see how closely these movies resemble the books. I am especially fond of the Lord of the Rings books and movies. J. R. R. Tolkien's books were some of the books that stirred my passion for reading. One of my favorite scenes from the Lord of the Rings movies is in the last film, The Return of the King. As they are considering attacking the Gates of Mordor, Gimli the dwarf says, "Certainty of death; Small chance of success; What are we waiting for?" I love that line because it reveals his commitment to the cause for which they are fighting. Despite the apparent insurmountable opposition, Gimli

refused to entertain the idea of backing down.

In our world sometimes those of us who choose to live for Christ appear to face insurmountable opposition. We are pressed from every side, the world around us doesn't offer much hope as it turns farther and farther from God, and at times even the church abandons Scripture as it follows the patterns of society. In difficult times such as these what we must always remember is that the darker our hour of opposition becomes the greater our potential to shine for Christ becomes as well. Paul's instructions to Timothy in chapters 3 and 4 of 2 Timothy offer us the guidance we need to stand for the cause of Christ and endure difficult times.

In Paul's instruction to Timothy we see the need to expect difficult times (3:1, 10-

Story

position themselves so that they won't face persecution. Even though their actions are unholy and at times harsh, they are not in conflict with the prevailing attitudes of the day and there is no controversy in their words because their words adhere to the prevailing worldview of the people around them. Paul's instruction to Timothy encourages us to prepare for and endure the difficult times we do and we will face, by adhering to Scripture, following godly examples, and living out our faith (verse 10).

In addition to instructing Timothy to expect difficult times, Paul also instructs him to embrace the truth (3:14-17). Like Timothy, we need to cling tightly to the truth during times

13). This instruction shouldn't surprise us because it is similar to what Jesus said to his disciples when He reminded them that they would be treated as He was treated (John 15:18-19). In contrast, the false teachers described in verses 2-9

of difficulty (verse 14). We need to be like the running back in the championship football game who sees the big hit he's about to take and uses both hands to grasp the ball tightly to ensure he doesn't fumble. Like Timothy, we can embrace the truth of God's word by recognizing and submitting to its authority (verses 16-17). As we "continue" in the truth of God's Word we have the comfort that comes from knowing and recalling Scripture. We have the comfort of its "teaching" (divine instruction), "rebuking" (convicting of sin), "correcting" (restoring), and "training" (building up). Our adherence to the truth of God's Word prepares us to capably handle whatever God calls us to do.

Finally Paul instructs Timothy to endure to the end (4:5-8). Paul's words show us that proper perspective will give us the ability to continue to the end. Paul recognized that his life was not his own (Galatians 2:20) but rather God's to use for his own glory. He recognized that he was a vessel in the Master's hands

(verse 6). As a result he was able to allow God's Word to dictate his actions in all situations rather than submitting to his own desires. In addition, he maintained an eternal perspective. He recognized the temporal nature of his life here and anticipated the joy of freedom that would result in departing this world (verse 6). Paul was a remarkable individual but each of us has similar potential to endure to the end as he did if we maintain a godly perspective of ourselves.

As much as I love a good book; As much as I enjoy a great movie; Neither can compare to the life changing power of God's Word. As inspiring as Gimli's words of commitment are in The Return of the King, they pale in comparison to the commitment of saints like John, Peter, Paul, and others recorded in Scripture. Difficult times will come but we have the certainty of eternal life; we cannot be defeated; what are we waiting for?

Story is Minister of Education, First Church, Louisville.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Show Gratitude

Hebrews 10:1-18

By Cyndi Grace

What comes to mind when you hear the word, salvation? Observing a typical Sunday morning service with bored faces, yawns and frequent glances at watches it would appear the answer is "Not much!" If this gift of a restored relationship with our Creator and the promise of abundant and eternal life has been accepted, then perhaps it has been taken for granted as we sit in our comfortable pews ready to criticize anything we don't like about a church service. Concerns about the type of music, what people are wearing, the length of the sermon and the temperature abound but at what point do we consider the sacrifice of His shed blood, which has given us this

wonderful gift of salvation? Do we really understand His sacrifice and what effect it should have in our lives? If we are to be salt and light in our world, we seriously need to consider this.

Our text reminded the Israelites the blood of animal sacrifices once used for acceptance by God had been futile and temporary. Blood sacrifices are not understood today; perhaps that is why there is not a more passionate reaction to Christ's sacrifice for us. To the Jews, however, a sacrifice had to include a death to provide the offering, for life is in the blood. The writer understood the former sacrifices could do nothing about their sin but Christ's once and for all sacrifice completely washed the sin away. This is HUGE; so huge,

Grace

right hand of God. That term "sat down" meant the work was accomplished and now it was time for Satan's demise. The blood sacrifice was complete but notice there was something more for us: He perfected forever those He has sanctified! (vs. 14) We know that word "perfected" means "made complete" but we were also sanctified. Sanctified is not a word we Baptist frequently use but we should! It means to be "set apart" or "holy." The NIV uses the term "who are being made holy." The Greek word for sanctified is Hagios and has a two-fold meaning: set apart from sin and set apart to God! In the Old Testament the

in fact, Satan did everything he could to stop the sacrifice from taking place because he knew it would end his power over mankind as he had known it.

After the sacrifice and resurrection, Hebrews states that Jesus sat down at the

priests wore a similar Hebrew word, Qadosh, with the word Yahweh on their foreheads to state: Holy unto the LORD. We seem to have that "set apart from sin" down pat! But the "set apart to God" is where many who call the name of Jesus are missing the boat. What if we were asked to wear a sign on your forehead that said, "Holy unto the LORD!" I believe it would change the way we live our lives!

Paul says we are the temple of the Holy Spirit (set apart) and we are not our own. (1 Corth. 6:19) This great honor brings incredible responsibility. We are to live our lives differently from the world not because of the law or an obligation but because of our deep gratitude for His gift. The law, according to verse 16, is no longer written by man but on our hearts and minds and the Holy Spirit will guide us into the holiness we are to exhibit.

God has called us to be set apart to live a life of holiness yet we give Him the excuse of "just being human!" If God has

set us apart, He will give us victory. Our responsibility to live differently, worship Him in spirit and truth, devour His Word in order to know Him better will reflect who He is to a lost world.

Oh, the church today needs to remember our salvation is not about making ourselves comfortable or happy or satisfied but it is about sharing that we have been set absolutely free from the shackles Satan once had on our lives. We have been set free forever and that freedom should cause us to serve Christ with gladness and gratitude!

So, what does salvation mean to you? Do you truly know you are free? Do you know victory because of Christ's shed blood? If you do, tell Him! Show Him your gratitude! Tell others! This Sunday and everyday rejoice as you never have before because you are free as a result of this incredible sacrifice and gift of salvation.

Grace is a women's conference speaker and women's ministry director at Highland Church, Vicksburg.

Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible:

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Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts

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All news items are subject to editing,

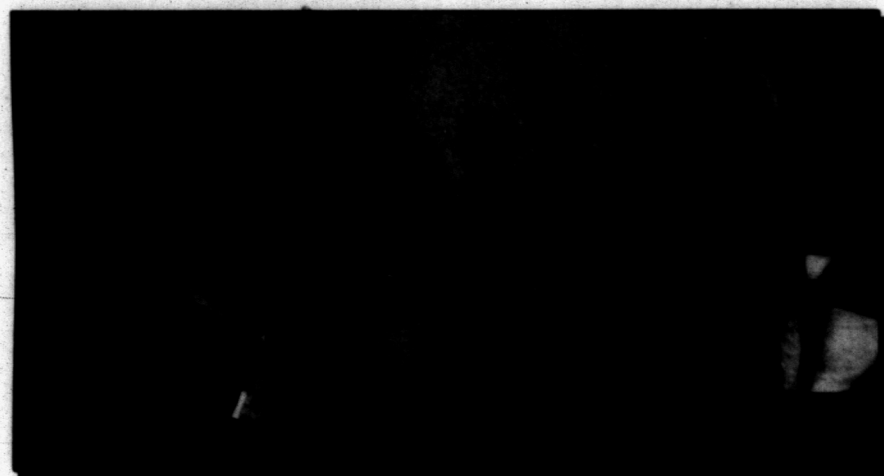
and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. Requests to return photographs must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.



1. Deacon Ordination, Tate Church, Corinth



2. Perfect Attendance, Beulah Church, Newton County

1. Tate Church, Corinth, recently ordained Joe Lawson, Cole Sanders, and Mark Ivey as deacons. Shown are Lawson, Sanders, pastor Gregg Thomas, and Ivey.

2. Beulah Church, Newton County, awarded Sunday School pins for perfect attendance to, from left,

Laverne Chaney, 29 years; Barbara Harrison, 24 years; Elton Bryan, 13 years; Will Motley, 29 years; Joe Motley, 3 years; Neal Motley, 37 years (perfect attendance since birth); Shirley Glenn, 2 years; and Courtney Lanier, 1 year.

3. Bellevue Church, Thaxton, held a note burn-

ing celebration Sept. 10, with a fellowship meal and special afternoon service. Shown are Roy Phillips, Tim Williams, and pastor Tommy Inmon.

4. Bolton Church, Bolton, held a baby dedication Sept. 24. Shown are Daniel and Quejet Forrester with daughter Gabriella; Pam and Billy Thomas with daughter Abigail; and Jenna and pastor Jackie Banes with son Bryson.

5. Rawls Springs Church, Hattiesburg, is hosting Psalms Trio in concert Oct. 29, 6 p.m.

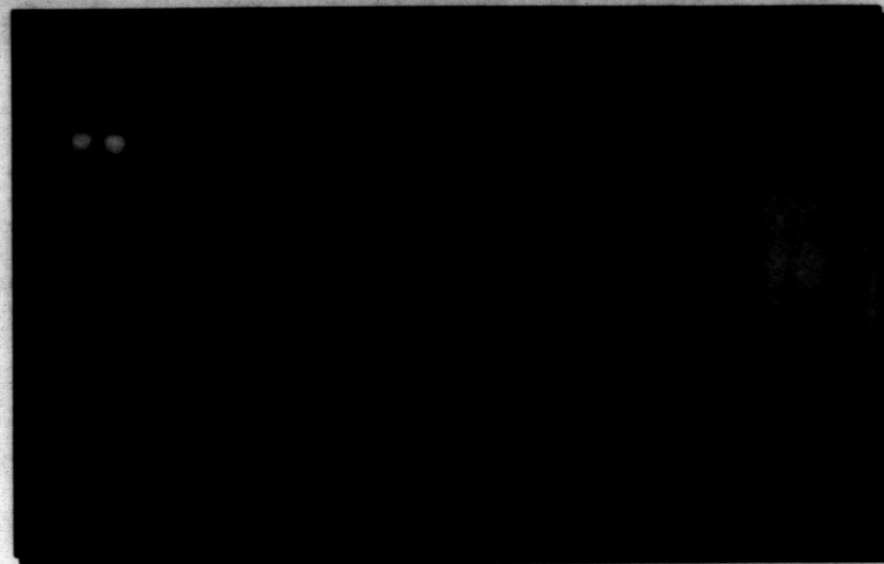
6. Leesburg Church, Morton, is hosting a fall festival Oct. 31, 6:30-8:30 p.m., featuring games, treats, and a soup and chili contest. For information, call (601) 854-5306.

7. Farmhaven Church, Farmhaven, will host Jan Halford, ventriloquist and singer, Oct. 29, 6 p.m. David Merritt, pastor.

8. Pine Burr Church, Columbia, is honoring John Watts for serving 50 years as pastor. Sunday School, 10 a.m., followed by worship, covered dish luncheon, and an afternoon service of song and testimony. Jerry Mixon, speaker.

9. The Clarke College classes of 1959, 1960, and 1961 will hold a reunion at Lake Tiak-O'Khata Nov. 10-11. Fri., spaghetti dinner and fellowship, 4-8:30 p.m.; Sat., noon-4 p.m. Open to all Clarke College alumni. For information, call (251) 666-2175, (601) 856-4744, or (601) 845-0542.

10. Harrisville Church, Harrisville, will host Legacy of Faith in concert Oct. 29, 5:30 p.m. A love offering will be received.



3. Noteburning Ceremony, Bellevue Church, Thaxton



4. Baby Dedication, Bolton Church, Bolton

11. Janice Church, Brooklyn, is hosting a fall festival Oct. 28, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., including fun booths for children, face painting, country store, crafts, garage sale, turkey shoot, burgers, hot dogs, drinks. Children dress as favorite Bible character. Call (601) 598-2693 for information.

13. Silver Creek Church, McComb, is having a combination Fall Festival and Gospelfest Oct. 28, 4:30 p.m., with food, fun, entertainment, booths, games, and a cakewalk. Singing groups include Chosen, Arise & Sing, and Shepherd's Call. For more information, call (601) 783-9083.

12. Franklin Creek Church, Moss Point, is hosting a fall festival Oct. 28, 4-6 p.m., including food, games, candy, and a chili cook-off.

REVIVALS AND HOMECOMINGS

Ackerman Church, Ackerman: Revival, Nov. 12-15; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Jim Futral, speaker; Laverne Pickett and sanctuary choir, music; Danny Irvin, pastor.

Fairview Church, Indianola: Homecoming, Nov. 19; worship, 10:30 a.m., followed by food fellowship; Shelby Hazzard, speaker; George Lipe, music.

First Church, Lauderdale: Homecoming, Nov. 12; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by covered dish luncheon; Bob Simmons, speaker; Tom Harrison, music.

Leesburg Church, Morton: 125th anniversary, Nov. 4-5; Sat., 4 p.m., worship in song, followed with food and fellowship; special guests Randall and Becky Jackson; Sun., 9:30 a.m., memorial and worship service, followed by dinner on the grounds; Ricky Kennedy, speaker.

Liberty Church, Liberty: Revival, Nov. 12-15; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by lunch and 1:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., noon, with complimentary lunch, and 7 p.m.; Ernest Sadler, speaker; Jimmy Bilbo, music.

Ludlow Church, Ludlow: Homecoming, Oct. 29; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by dinner; Holmes Carlisle, speaker; Dwight Cooper, music; Sylvia Graves, pianist; M.L. Wallace, pastor.

Philliston Church, Sidon: Harvest Day and revival, Nov. 10-12; Fri.-Sat., 7 p.m.; Sun., singing at 10 a.m., worship, 11 a.m., followed by lunch; Danny Irving, Perry Irving, Bob Irving, speakers; Amy and The Gore Family, music.

Shubuta Church, Clarke Association: Sesquicentennial anniversary, Oct. 29; worship, 11 a.m., followed by covered dish lunch; Ferrell Morris, speaker; Jim Harris, pastor.

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COLLEGE NEWS

The Mississippi College Department of Music will present Rogers and Hammerstein's timeless musical, *The King and I*. Performances will be in the Jean Pittman Williams Recital Hall of the Aven Fine Arts building, recently renovated to include raised theater seating. Performances are Oct. 26-28, at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 29, at 2:30 p.m., Nov. 2-4, at 7:30 p.m., and Nov. 5, at 2:30 p.m. For more information, call (601) 925-3440 or visit www.music.mc.edu.

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